



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

952015

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

DE-9J

APR 30 2004

Patricia A. Dixon-Darden  
East Chicago Health Department  
100 W. Chicago Avenue  
East Chicago, Indiana 46312

Dear Ms. Dixon-Darden:

Last summer, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) collected soil samples from residential yards in the Calumet neighborhoods in East Chicago, Indiana. The sampling also included properties from the City of East Chicago. The purpose of the sampling was to measure the levels of lead and other metals in the soil in the area to determine if the soils were impacted by past industrial operations.

Enclosed are a table and figure of the sampling from the City of East Chicago properties. In evaluating results of samples, U.S. EPA uses 400 parts per million (ppm) soil lead as a screening level for residential property in the State of Indiana. This means that if the contamination in the soil is below 400 ppm, no further action is needed.

- The results of the following City of East Chicago properties exceed the level of 400 ppm, so further sampling will be needed to determine if any actions need to be taken.

**Kennedy Gardens Park (two samples)**

**Non-responsive**

**West of McCook Avenue (two samples)**

- The results of the following City of East Chicago properties do not exceed 400 ppm, so no further action is necessary.

**Martin Luther King Park**

**150<sup>th</sup> Street and Alexander Avenue**

**Non-responsive**

**West of McCook Avenue (one sample)**

**Riley Park (two samples)**

- The results of the following City of East Chicago properties do not exceed 400 ppm, but further sampling may be needed. The accuracy of the results must be assured to confirm that no actions need to be taken.

**Riley Park (two samples)**

Within the next few months, U.S. EPA expects to arrange a public meeting in the community. Sampling results will be more fully explained and future actions will be more detailed at that meeting. We will notify you of the meeting by mail. In the interim, we welcome your suggestions on meeting arrangements.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (312) 886-7567.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mirtha Capiro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Mirtha Capiro  
Environmental Scientist

Enclosures